

Consumer Task Force
Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards
July 22, 2008 10:00 am - noon

MINUTES

ATTENDEES: Jacqui Day, Ian Engle, Laura Hall, Sharon Hall, Sharon Hold, Suanne McBrien, Robin Ripmaster, Susan Steinke, Cyndy Viars, Colleen Widders, Tammy Yeomans, Tandy Bidinger, Robert Curtner, Wendi Middleton, Tari Muñiz, Jackie Tichnell

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - Minutes were approved.

OFFICE UPDATE - Jackie Tichnell provided an update of the Office to include 2 new students for the summer. They will provide mainly data entry. Michael Daeschlein's position has not been posted at this time.

STATUS OF THE BUDGET - A handout was provided that showed the difference between the Executive Office budget and the Conference Committee budget. An explanation of the Conference Committee was provided as follows. If the Senate budget and the House budget do not agree, both areas negotiate between themselves, the Department, and the Budget office to come up with a Conference Committee budget. The budget was passed.

Several issues/comments were made:

- There no state funds in the Specialized Residential line for MI Choice
- The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) had requested the creation of a trust fund to provide health care to home help workers. This request was not included in the final budget.
- Current unemployed persons should work in the home health arena.
- Caregiving needs to be elevated to a profession with a career track.
- The Co-op, Partners in Personal Assistance, should be expanded statewide.
- CAN standards and pay should be compared to home help standards and pay.

ALLISON HOUSE - Ian provided an update on Allison House. This is a HUD-run residence, and therefore may have interesting rules. The residence appears to be weeding out people who need supports as difficult people. There is friction between the residents and part-time manager. Ian is hoping to meet with the Allison House board next week, with a subsequent meeting with the residents. It is possible that a Residents' or Family Council may be created around common issues. It appears all parties need access to resources, such as CILs or Area Agencies on Aging. The residence is currently running in debt and is in danger of being closed. This is a great transition residence from a nursing facility.

PROJECT UPDATES

Self-Determination in LTC - Tari included the final Cash & Counseling (Robert Wood Johnson) report for the grant. It has been submitted to the National Program Office for approval. As of July 21, there are 352 persons on self-determination. Tari is working with MSA on monitoring the requirement that the waiver agent offer self-determination to consumers. It will be part of the clinical review process. There was a discussion regarding the

ability to offer caregivers of people on self-determination higher wages than the home help program.

Quality Community Care Council - Susan Steinke noted the office was moving to Pine Tree sometime in the fall. There was also a discussion regarding the proposed Medicaid policy around nursing homes and durable medical equipment. Tandy also mentioned there was a policy that was presented for internal State staff comment regarding the SPEs and determining the level of care. Once past the State comment period, the draft policy will be provided for outside review, as well.

Nursing Facility Diversion - OSA - Wendi Middleton noted her office was submitting for a new grant. This grant will expand their existing grant to 6 additional Area Agencies on Aging to provide nursing facility diversion services to people who are not eligible for Medicaid. The grant is for \$1M for 18 months. It is due August 14th. She is asking the Task Force for a letter of support. Wendi will be asking Suanne McBrien to help with selecting the 6 additional sites.

State Profile Grant - Jackie provided an update. Jennifer is collecting data from many, many sources. The Advisory Council for this grant is being created by MDRC and will meet several times. Their charge will be to review the document prior to submission.

OTHER:

- Ian is interviewing in Colorado for the leadership of a large CIL
- Adapt is following John McCain
- Thursday, July 24 - ADA Celebration at Hawk Island, Lansing, 11:00am to whenever the fun ends. It is sponsored by CACIL and ADAPT.
- Saturday, July 26 - Presidential Forum on Disability Issues, in Columbus, Ohio. It will be web cast. You can register for the webcast at <http://www.disaboom.com/AAPDSignUp.aspx?>
- Cyndy offered to provide a short version of the Project Success training
- The Information Session will continue the discussion of grants and the Consumer Task Force
- Cyndy would like some time at either a meeting or Information Session to show the video advocacy DVD.

NEXT MEETING:

SEPTEMBER 23 2008; 10:00 - noon, Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards

OCTOBER 29 2008; 10:00 - noon, Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards

PHONE IN NUMBER:

800-791-2345, code number 74236